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Joe Bustillos
COMM201 - October 12, 1987
Fresno City Council coverage

But who is FRED
MARTINEZ? Don't put
unknown names in the local

Fresno City ~~city~~ council member, "Skip" Hinkmeier said, "Let them sue us," ~~on~~ Tuesday in response to a ~~request~~ ^{DEMAND} that the city pay \$10.6 million to ~~Mr.~~ Fred Martinez for injuries allegedly received in an accident involving a city employee.

not a first name

I believe
it was
MAY
3 of
LAST
YEAR

In a letter addressed to Mayor Peterson the law firm of Wardlow, Wardlow and Wardlow claimed that Martinez suffered a "broken right leg and severe lacerations" when he was struck on May 3~~rd~~ by a city sanitation truck driven by Andrew T. Mitchell. Asking \$5.6 million for pain and suffering, \$2 million in punitive damages and \$3 million for lost wages and salaries, the law firm threatened to sue if the request ~~is~~ ^{was} denied.

The request was denied in a 5-0 vote with no further discussion on the matter.

Good
EXPLANATION

The city council also voted 3-1 ~~in favor of~~ ^{to} increasing ^{ve} the funding of the Fresno Senior Health Center's "Movin' Meals" program from \$1 million to \$1.5 million in 1988. Health Center Director, Leopaldo Valencia, explained that the increased support was necessary because the ~~Federal~~ ^{Federal} Government's program of matching municipal subsidies was going to decrease next year from 50 percent to 25 percent. Valencia said, "Such an action would force

the program out of operation. We spent approximately \$20,000 more last year on 'Movin' Meals' than we received, even with our federal support."

⌈ Council member T. Walter Briggs abstained from voting because he said ~~that~~ he receives meals from the program. The one ^{SP} ~~decenting~~ vote came from Mayor Peterson who called the program "A waste of city money."